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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Albania

REPORT

SUBJECT Officers from the Soviet
Armed Forces in Vlone

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Between the 1st and 15th of September about 20 officers from the Soviet Army, Navy, and Air Force arrived at Vlone, in two groups, by government vehicle; [redacted] they probably came from Tirana. The officers were of field grade, mostly Colonels. 50X1-HUM

2. The group of officers, accompanied by 4 Albanian civilians, went twice each day from the former Gambino hotel to a restricted area in the port. [redacted] the group was giving "examinations". The group was reported as being still in Vlone as of the 4th of October. 50X1-HUM

Comment: Although there are many reasons why officers of all arms could be meeting in Vlone which is the Headquarters of the Albanian Navy, one of the most likely would be for combined maneuvers against seaborne invasion or against passage of the Straits of Otranto. 50X1-HUM

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